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Mrs. Wlen Tracy  
Mrs. Snowden Tracy  
Russell Garbert  
Church records  
Rev. I. Garber, the Brethern minister.





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Chapter 6 Religion

KERR MEMORIAL CHURCH-- BOYER

The Kerr Memorial church at Boyer was named for Lieut. Robert D. Kerr, a son of James Kerr, who graduated with distinction from West Point in 1896 and was assigned to the engineer branch of the service. He was ordered to the Philippines during the Spanish American war, but died on board a troop ship in July and was buried in the Pacific Ocean. An engraved metal plate on the pulpit bears these words.

"In memory of Lieut. Robert David Kerr  
In the service of the United States, died  
at sea on board the Indiana between Honolulu  
and Manila on July 31, 1898. Age 22 years.  
Asleep beneath the blue Pacific waves,  
where deep the ocean keeps her many graves,  
Gods loving eyes have marked and kept the spot,  
The honored name that knew not stain or blot  
Is written high on scrolls of deathless fame,  
But safer still our Father keeps his name."

The deed was made October 2, 1905 by M. F. Book of the Book Lumber Co. of Pennsylvania to James D. Kerr, L. M. Collins, Ulrich Hevener, Jr., A. H. Ervin, M. C. Arbogast, S. J. Nottingham, F. W. Yeager and Fred S. Book, trustees of the Kerr Memorial church of Boyer.

The church was completed and dedicated during the year 1908. Much of the lumber for the church and the seats was given by Morgan Collins. Kenney Hexrode and George Maury were the

carpenters.

This church was locked at one time to bar the Church of  
woi people and for a few years it was not used by anyone.  
During this time no repairing was done on the church and it  
depreciated very much. In 1939 the people of the community  
decided to have Cap, Andy and Flip, well known radio artists,  
to give an entertainment at the church to see if they could  
raise some money to repair the church. They were very successful  
so they decided to go ahead and collect or donate enough to  
do all of the much needed repair work. A new roof was put on,  
broken windows replaced, repainted on the outside, underpinned,  
floor oiled, new carpets put down, etc., until now it is in  
very good condition. Money donations toward this repair work  
were also made by Mrs. Harry VanOsdale, Mrs. Zack Nottingham,  
Mrs. Willis Wilmoth and Mrs. Vesta Nottingham, sisters of  
Robert D. Kew.

The Methodist preach in the church one Sunday per month,  
and the Brethern preach in it two Sundays each month, though  
each go to the others services and they all work together  
in the Sunday school and young peoples meetings.  
Records show a Methodist membership of 32 for 1940. the  
Brethern membership is 92.

The present trustees are Daniel Ayder, Glen Tracy,  
Russell Lambert,

The present Stewards are Russell Lambert, Glen Tracy  
and Ulay Lambert.

The Sunday school Supt. is Ann Wilfong, and the teachers  
are Daniel Ayder, George Croner, Glen Tracy, Mrs. Glen Tracy,  
and Thelma Fugh.

They now have a good Sunday school and a well attended young Peoples Meeting every Sunday night.

All money collected is divided half and half between the denominations.

I was up to Durbin to see Rev. I. J. Gerber, the Brethern minister, and he said their membership of 92 at Boyer lived not only in the village but in the surrounding countryside as far south as Arbovale and Glade Hill. Their work in this community, he says, began at Brush Run. That for many years they used the Brush Run church, but the Church of God people did not cooperate and they then came down to the Boyer church and have used it since that time.